UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/CONF.151/PC/WG.II/L.27/Corr.1
28 March 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Fourth session
New York, 2 March-3 April 1992
Agenda item 2 (c) of Plenary
Agenda item 4 (c) of Working Group II

PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ON THE BASIS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 44/228 AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OTHER RELEVANT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS: CROSS-SECTORAL ISSUES

SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

(Section II, chapter 14 of Agenda 21)

Text submitted by the Chairman on the basis of negotiations held on document A/CONF.151/PC/100/Add.4

Corrigendum

1. Subparagraphs 4 (a) to (d) should read

(a) Promote policies and practical measures to minimize and limit, where appropriate, the generation of radioactive wastes, and to provide for their safe processing, conditioning, transportation and disposal;

(b) Support efforts within IAEA to develop and promulgate radioactive waste safety standards or guidelines and codes of practice as an internationally accepted basis for the safe and environmentally sound management and disposal of radioactive wastes;

(c) Promote safe storage, transportation and disposal of radioactive wastes, as well as spent radiation sources and spent fuel from nuclear reactors destined for final disposal, in all countries and in particular in developing countries, by facilitating the transfer of

relevant technologies to those countries, and/or the return to the supplier of radiation sources after their use, in accordance with relevant international regulations or guidelines;

(d) Promote proper planning, including where appropriate environmental impact assessment, of safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive waste, including emergency procedures, storage, transportation and disposal, prior to and after activities which generate such waste.

2. Paragraph 5 should read

5. States should in cooperation with relevant international organizations, where appropriate

(a) Strengthen their efforts to implement the Code of Practice for International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste and, under the auspices of IAEA, in cooperation with relevant international organizations dealing with different modes of transport, keep the question of such movements under active review, including the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument;

(b) Encourage the London Dumping Convention to expedite work to complete studies on replacing the current voluntary moratorium on disposal of low-level radioactive wastes at sea by a ban, taking into account the precautionary approach, with a view to taking a well-informed and timely decision on the issue;

(c) Not promote or allow the storage or disposal of high-level, intermediate-level and low-level radioactive wastes near the marine environment unless scientific evidence, consistent with the applicable internationally agreed principles and guidelines, shows that such storage or disposal poses no unacceptable risk to people and the marine environment or does not interfere with other legitimate use of the sea, making in this process of consideration appropriate use of the precautionary approach;

(d) Not export radioactive wastes to countries which individually or through international agreements prohibit the import of such wastes, such as the contracting parties to the Bamako Convention, to Lomé IV, or to other relevant conventions, where such prohibition is provided for;

(e) Respect, in accordance with international law, the decisions, as far as applicable to them, taken by parties to other relevant regional conventions dealing with other aspects of safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes.

3. Subparagraphs 8 (a) and (b) should read

(a) Promote research and development of methods for the safe and environmentally sound treatment, processing and disposal including deep geological disposal of high-level radioactive waste;

(b) Conduct research and assessment programmes concerned with evaluating the health and environmental impact of radioactive waste disposal.

4. At the beginning of paragraph 9 insert

States in cooperation with relevant international organizations should provide, as appropriate,

---